

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING READ-ONLY OBJECTS WITHIN AN OBJECT-ADDRESSED MEMORY HIERARCHY

ABSTRACT

One embodiment of the present invention provides a system that supports read-only objects within an object-addressed memory hierarchy. During operation, the system receives a request to access an object, wherein the request includes an object identifier for the object that is used to reference the object within the object-addressed memory hierarchy. In response to this request, the system uses the object identifier to retrieve an object table entry associated with the object. If the request is a write request, the system examines a read-only indicator within the object table entry. If this read-only indicator specifies that the object is a read-only object, the system performs a corrective action to deal with the fact that the write request is directed to a read-only object.